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MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
# LABOR
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BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
Division of Economic Analysis and Research

# LABOR MARKET DIGEST

January 1989

*The Labor Market Information Newsletter on Maine Economic Activity*

*Now you can hire ... or you can be hired...*

## Bonding for Ex-Offenders at no Cost to Employers

It can be difficult to find a good job when one has been out of the labor market for a period of time, but when that time has been spent in prison, it is even harder. Most employers do not want to put their trust in ex-offenders, especially if the job includes handling cash or valuable goods and materials. However, there is a 20-year-old program that can be beneficial to both employer and job-seeker.

*"Every day I have to turn down job-seekers because they aren't bondable."*

*—Employer*

The Federal Bonding Program (FBP) provides fidelity bonds for applicants who are (or may be) denied coverage by commercial carriers because of a record of arrest, conviction, or imprisonment, and this coverage is provided at no cost to the employer or the applicant.

### What is Bonding?

Many employers carry insurance to protect themselves against employee theft or dishonesty. Employees who handle money or valuable tools or goods are covered. This insurance is called fidelity bonding. Usually insurance carriers refuse fidelity bonding to employers for employees or applicants who are considered a bad risk, such as ex-offenders.

### How Does the FBP Work?

Bonding assistance may be provided to any individual who:

- Is qualified for the employment in question
- Is not commercially bondable
- Has a firm job offer

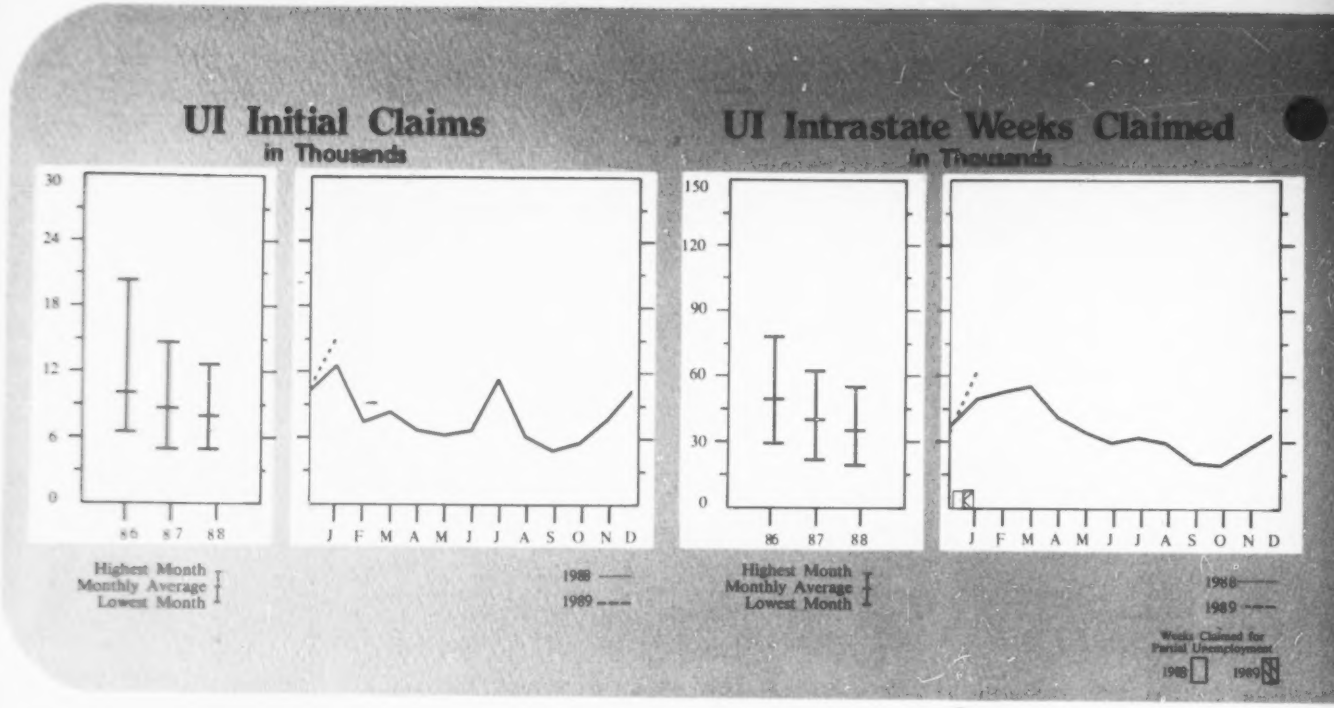
and if the job:

- Offers full-time, steady work
- Offers reasonable expectation of permanence
- Is not self-employment

### Application

Coverage is provided by the Aetna Casualty and Surety Company through the Federal Bonding Program, which is administered in Maine by the Bureau of Employment Security, Job Service Division. Either the job applicant or the prospective employer (on behalf of an applicant or employee) may apply for fidelity bonding insurance by contacting the Designated Authorized Representative for the

*continued on page 2 ...*




state, Hilton Drake, at the Job Service Administrative Office in Augusta, 289-3431.

### Processing

The application procedure is simple and quick. If the applicant and the job meet eligibility criteria, bonding becomes effective immediately when the following two conditions are met:

- The Designated Authorized Representative certifies the bond. The process usually takes only a day or two
- The applicant begins work

After the applicant is enrolled in the FBP, the bond is mailed to the employer by Aetna. Coverage begins on the first day of work.

### Coverage

The designated authorized representative can help you match the amount of FBP coverage to the exact needs of the potential employee. Bonds are available in $500 increments up to $10,000 and, in special cases, up to $25,000.

The bond may cover any period up to 12 months. However, at the end of the FBP coverage, if bonding cannot be arranged through the employer's own insurance company or through another commercial underwriter, The Aetna Casualty and Surety Company will arrange for standard commercial bonding coverage. This coverage will be arranged for any bondee who has been bonded for a reasonable period of time without default under the Federal Bonding Program.

### How Successful is the Program?

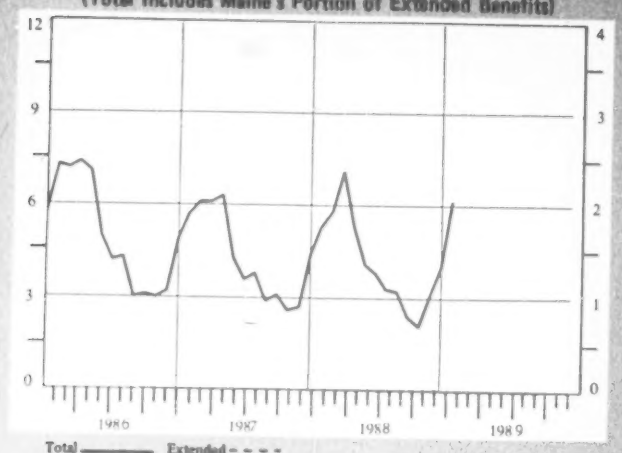
A recent report showed that:

- Over 21,000 bonds have been issued
- The default rate for the Federal Bonding Program is under two percent. This means that claims have been paid on fewer than one in fifty bondees
- Employers of FBP bondees have expressed a high degree of satisfaction with their performance

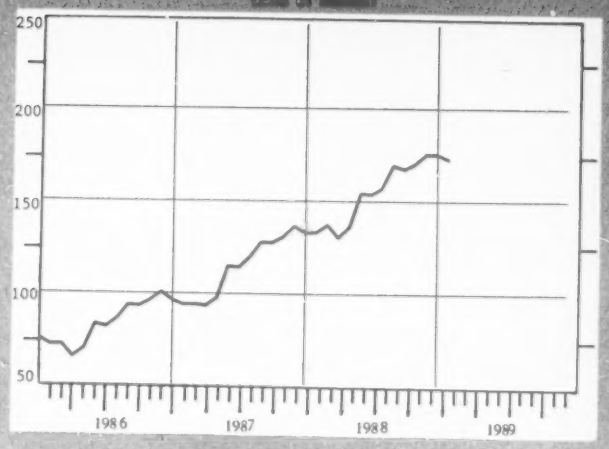
*continued on page 6 ...*

# Selected Employment Security Activities

## UI Benefit Payments
In Millions
(Total Includes Maine's Portion of Extended Benefits)




## Unemployment Compensation Fund Balance in Millions
(End of Month)




## Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work
in Thousands

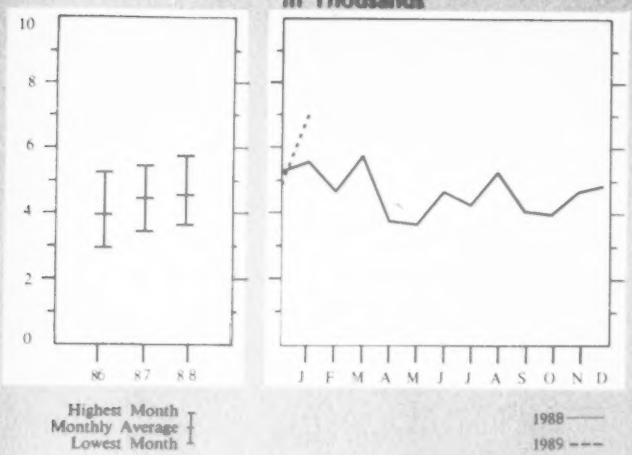
| ITEM | STATEWIDE This Month | STATEWIDE Last Month | STATEWIDE Year Ago | PORTLAND MSA This Month | PORTLAND MSA Last Month | PORTLAND MSA Year Ago | LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA This Month | LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA Last Month | LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA Year Ago |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment 1/ | 514.9 | 530.1 | 497.1 | 128.6 | 132.5 | 122.1 | 40.6 | 42.0 | 39.7 |
| Total Manufacturing | 109.2 | 110.4 | 107.1 | 17.8 | 17.4 | 16.7 | 9.8 | 10.0 | 10.3 |
| Durable Goods | 51.9 | 52.9 | 49.3 | 8.6 | 8.7 | 7.9 | 2.8 | 2.9 | 2.9 |
| Lumber and Wood Products | 13.6 | 13.8 | 13.8 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.6 |
| Primary and Fabricated Metals | 3.7 | 3.7 | 3.4 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 |
| Industrial Machinery and Equipment | 4.4 | 4.7 | 4.4 | 1.9 | 2.2 | 2.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Electronic and Other Electric Equipment | 10.9 | 11.1 | 10.9 | 3.7 | 3.6 | 3.4 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.8 |
| Transportation Equipment 2/ | 14.3 | 14.2 | 12.1 | (d) | (d) | (d) | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Other Durable Goods 3/ | 5.0 | 5.4 | 4.7 | 1.8 | 1.6 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.3 |
| Nondurable Goods | 57.3 | 57.5 | 57.8 | 9.2 | 8.7 | 8.8 | 7.0 | 7.1 | 7.4 |
| Food and Kindred Products | 7.2 | 7.2 | 7.5 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 |
| Textile Mill Products | 6.3 | 6.2 | 6.7 | (d) | (d) | (d) | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.1 |
| Apparel and Other Textile Products | 3.1 | 3.1 | 3.2 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Paper and Allied Products | 17.9 | 17.9 | 17.4 | (d) | (d) | (d) | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| Printing and Publishing | 5.7 | 5.6 | 5.6 | 1.8 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 |
| Rubber and Misc. Plastic Products | 3.7 | 3.8 | 3.8 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 1.8 |
| Leather and Leather Products | 12.3 | 12.5 | 12.6 | 1.3 | 1.4 | 1.5 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.3 |
| Footwear (except Rubber) | 10.5 | 10.7 | 10.6 | n/a | n/a | n/a | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.9 |
| Other Nondurable Goods 4/ | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.0 | 3.5 | 3.3 | 3.3 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Total Nonmanufacturing | 405.7 | 419.7 | 390.0 | 110.8 | 115.1 | 105.4 | 30.8 | 32.0 | 29.4 |
| Construction and Mining | 32.1 | 34.9 | 29.0 | 8.3 | 9.2 | 8.4 | 2.1 | 2.4 | 2.0 |
| Building Construction | 11.2 | 12.0 | 11.0 | 2.5 | 2.8 | 2.6 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.5 |
| Special Trades Contractor | 15.3 | 16.4 | 13.5 | 4.5 | 4.9 | 4.8 | 1.4 | 1.5 | 1.3 |
| Transportation and Public Utilities | 21.3 | 21.4 | 20.0 | 5.0 | 5.6 | 5.4 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.4 |
| Wholesale Trade | 25.5 | 25.4 | 24.2 | 10.3 | 10.3 | 9.8 | 2.1 | 2.2 | 2.0 |
| Retail Trade | 98.6 | 105.2 | 96.7 | 28.8 | 30.6 | 27.3 | 8.3 | 8.9 | 7.7 |
| Food Stores | 18.2 | 18.7 | 17.3 | 4.2 | 4.4 | 4.1 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.3 |
| Eating and Drinking Places | 28.2 | 29.9 | 26.9 | 7.6 | 8.1 | 7.0 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.2 |
| Finance, Insurance and Real Estate | 25.5 | 25.5 | 24.9 | 11.7 | 12.6 | 11.8 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 2.2 |
| Banking | 8.9 | 8.9 | 8.6 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 2.9 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.8 |
| Insurance Carriers, Brokers and Agents | 10.2 | 10.1 | 10.1 | 5.7 | 5.7 | 5.3 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.6 |
| Services | 112.0 | 112.4 | 106.0 | 30.6 | 30.1 | 28.1 | 10.5 | 10.8 | 10.2 |
| Hotels and Other Lodging Places | 5.9 | 6.5 | 5.7 | 1.3 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Business Services | 13.8 | 13.5 | 12.4 | 4.9 | 4.8 | 4.9 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 0.9 |
| Health Services | 42.6 | 42.4 | 40.9 | 10.0 | 10.0 | 10.0 | 4.1 | 4.1 | 4.2 |
| Federal Government | 18.8 | 19.1 | 18.4 | 2.1 | 2.1 | 1.9 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 |
| State and Local Government 5/ | 71.9 | 75.8 | 70.8 | 14.0 | 14.6 | 12.7 | 3.8 | 3.7 | 3.6 |
| Involved in Labor-Management Disputes | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.6 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

1/ Employment figures relate to full- and part-time wage and salary workers in pay periods including the 12th of the month. Domestic workers in private households, proprietors, self-employed, and unpaid family workers are excluded. 2/ Transportation equipment and instruments are combined in the Lewiston series. 3/ Includes Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes: Statewide - 25, 32, 38, 39; Portland - 25, 32, 37, 38, 39; Lewiston - 25, 32, 39. 4/ Includes SIC codes: Statewide - 28, 29; Portland - 22, 26, 28, 29; Lewiston - 28, 29. 5/ Regular teachers are included in summer months whether or not specifically paid in those months. n/a - data not available in sufficient detail for publication. *Less than 50. (d) Nondisclosure item.

THESE DATA ARE DEVELOPED BY THE MAINE BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY IN COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS.

## New Applications For Work

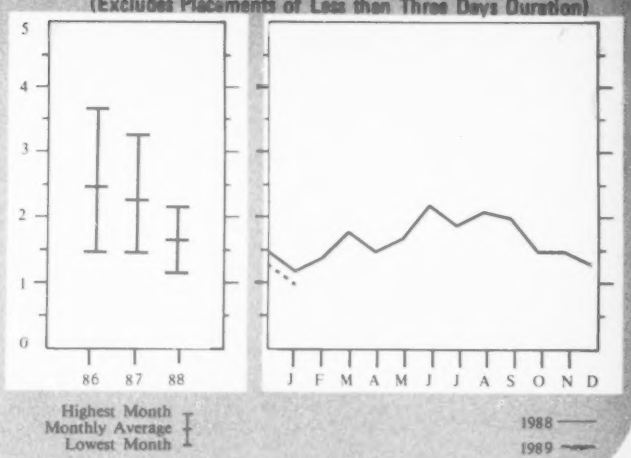
in Thousands




## Nonfarm Placements

in Thousands

(Excludes Placements of Less than Three Days Duration)




## Earnings and Workweek of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries

| AREA AND INDUSTRY | AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS | | | AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS | | | AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS | | | ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | This Month | Last Month | Year Ago | This Month | Last Month | Year Ago | This Month | Last Month | Year Ago | 1988 | 1987 | 1986 |
| STATEWIDE | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Manufacturing | $391.55 | $392.45 | $367.22 | 40.2 | 40.5 | 41.4 | $9.74 | $9.69 | $8.87 | $9.31 | $8.77 | $8.65 |
| Durable Goods | 386.78 | 388.96 | 367.16 | 40.8 | 40.9 | 43.4 | 9.48 | 9.51 | 8.46 | 9.00 | 8.32 | 8.52 |
| Lumber and Wood Products | 367.34 | 368.74 | 335.96 | 40.5 | 40.7 | 39.9 | 9.07 | 9.06 | 8.42 | 8.60 | 7.82 | 7.74 |
| Primary and Fabricated Metals | 404.10 | 403.10 | 406.00 | 45.1 | 44.2 | 46.4 | 8.96 | 9.12 | 8.75 | 8.79 | 8.94 | 8.58 |
| Industrial Machinery and Equipment | 473.57 | 476.25 | 452.48 | 45.8 | 46.6 | 50.5 | 10.34 | 10.22 | 8.96 | 9.49 | 9.20 | 9.62 |
| Electronic and Other Electric Equipment | 332.72 | 311.34 | 340.47 | 37.3 | 35.1 | 42.4 | 8.92 | 8.87 | 8.03 | 8.51 | 8.03 | 7.94 |
| Other Durable Goods | 410.94 | 408.62 | 363.37 | 41.3 | 41.4 | 42.8 | 9.95 | 9.87 | 8.49 | 9.31 | 8.60 | 9.41 |
| Nondurable Goods | 396.60 | 395.39 | 364.31 | 39.7 | 40.1 | 39.3 | 9.99 | 9.86 | 9.27 | 9.60 | 9.18 | 8.76 |
| Food and Kindred Products | 285.38 | 288.56 | 252.45 | 37.6 | 39.1 | 34.3 | 7.59 | 7.38 | 7.36 | 7.30 | 7.16 | 7.00 |
| Textile Mill Products | 318.38 | 319.97 | 300.11 | 40.2 | 39.6 | 40.5 | 7.92 | 8.08 | 7.41 | 7.66 | 7.35 | 7.04 |
| Apparel and Other Textile Products | 228.33 | 250.05 | 211.90 | 34.7 | 37.1 | 35.2 | 6.58 | 6.74 | 6.02 | 6.43 | 5.92 | 5.73 |
| Paper and Allied Products | 648.11 | 633.85 | 585.61 | 44.3 | 44.7 | 43.8 | 14.63 | 14.18 | 13.37 | 13.93 | 13.43 | 12.70 |
| Leather and Leather Products | 243.38 | 253.05 | 242.35 | 37.1 | 37.6 | 37.4 | 6.56 | 6.73 | 6.48 | 6.59 | 6.34 | 6.05 |
| Other Nondurable Goods | 320.17 | 325.74 | 327.64 | 37.1 | 37.1 | 38.5 | 8.63 | 8.78 | 8.51 | 8.62 | 8.28 | 8.00 |
| PORTLAND MSA | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Manufacturing | 425.57 | 406.18 | 389.76 | 40.3 | 39.9 | 42.0 | 10.56 | 10.18 | 9.28 | 9.58 | 9.13 | 9.17 |
| LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Manufacturing | 324.32 | 324.14 | 311.89 | 39.6 | 38.0 | 40.4 | 8.19 | 8.53 | 7.72 | 8.08 | 7.40 | 7.1965 |

## Female Labor Force in Maine

in Thousands

| ITEM | This Month | Last Month | Year Ago |
|---|---|---|---|
| Labor Force | 290.6 | 280.7 | 270.0 |
| Unemployed | 15.0 | 10.8 | 12.1 |
| (Percent) | 5.2% | 3.8% | 4.5% |
| Resident Employed | 275.6 | 269.9 | 257.9 |

## U.S. Consumer Price Index

| BASE PERIOD | This Month | Last Month | Year Ago | Last Dec. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| (1982-1984 = 100) All Items (CPI-U) | 121.1 | 120.5 | 115.7 | 120.5 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Percent Change for Past Month | +0.5 |
| Percent Change from Last December | +0.5 |
| Percent Change from 12 Months Ago | +4.7 |

# Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment

in Thousands

| AREA 1/ | LABOR FORCE 2/ This Month | LABOR FORCE 2/ Last Month | LABOR FORCE 2/ Year Ago | RESIDENT EMPLOYED This Month | RESIDENT EMPLOYED Last Month | RESIDENT EMPLOYED Year Ago | UNEMPLOYMENT Number This Month | UNEMPLOYMENT Number Last Month | UNEMPLOYMENT Number Year Ago | UNEMPLOYMENT Percent of Labor Force This Month | UNEMPLOYMENT Percent of Labor Force Last Month | UNEMPLOYMENT Percent of Labor Force Year Ago |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **MAINE**-Statewide | 595.9 | 601.0 | 580.4 | 568.5 | 576.2 | 553.1 | 27.4 | 24.8 | 27.3 | 4.6 | 4.1 | 4.7 |
| **MAJOR LABOR MARKETS** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bangor MSA | 44,700 | 46,900 | 43,100 | 43,100 | 45,300 | 41,500 | 1,600 | 1,600 | 1,600 | 3.6 | 3.4 | 3.7 |
| Lewiston-Auburn MSA | 42,700 | 42,800 | 41,900 | 40,300 | 40,800 | 39,700 | 2,400 | 2,000 | 2,200 | 5.6 | 4.7 | 5.3 |
| Portland MSA | 129,200 | 131,300 | 123,800 | 126,200 | 128,500 | 120,800 | 3,000 | 2,800 | 3,000 | 2.3 | 2.1 | 2.4 |
| Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester MSA 3/ | n/a | 134,400 | 127,700 | n/a | 132,000 | 124,600 | n/a | 2,400 | 3,100 | n/a | 1.8 | 2.4 |
| **OTHER LABOR MARKETS** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Augusta | 34,240 | 33,730 | 33,380 | 32,940 | 32,820 | 31,960 | 1,300 | 910 | 1,420 | 3.8 | 2.7 | 4.3 |
| Bath-Brunswick | 29,110 | 28,360 | 27,740 | 28,260 | 27,750 | 26,730 | 850 | 610 | 1,010 | 2.9 | 2.2 | 3.6 |
| Belfast | 11,110 | 11,230 | 11,230 | 10,000 | 10,150 | 10,270 | 1,110 | 1,080 | 960 | 10.0 | 9.6 | 8.5 |
| Biddeford | 27,300 | 27,310 | 26,390 | 26,360 | 26,170 | 25,390 | 940 | 1,140 | 1,000 | 3.4 | 4.2 | 3.8 |
| Boothbay Harbor-Wiscasset | 13,120 | 13,130 | 12,620 | 12,390 | 12,540 | 12,020 | 730 | 590 | 600 | 5.6 | 4.5 | 4.8 |
| Calais-Eastport | 13,820 | 14,340 | 13,400 | 12,480 | 13,220 | 11,820 | 1,340 | 1,120 | 1,580 | 9.7 | 7.8 | 11.8 |
| Caribou-Presque Isle | 20,640 | 21,060 | 20,430 | 19,030 | 19,190 | 18,740 | 1,610 | 1,870 | 1,690 | 7.8 | 8.9 | 8.3 |
| Central Penobscot | 3,120 | 3,090 | 2,820 | 2,920 | 2,960 | 2,630 | 200 | 130 | 190 | 6.4 | 4.2 | 6.7 |
| Dover-Foxcroft | 7,220 | 7,170 | 7,040 | 6,790 | 6,810 | 6,610 | 430 | 360 | 430 | 6.0 | 5.0 | 6.1 |
| Ellsworth | 22,030 | 22,220 | 21,600 | 20,310 | 20,980 | 19,740 | 1,710 | 1,240 | 1,860 | 7.8 | 5.6 | 8.6 |
| Farmington | 12,510 | 12,550 | 12,410 | 12,010 | 12,050 | 11,890 | 500 | 500 | 520 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 4.2 |
| Fort Kent-Allagash | 5,200 | 5,710 | 5,300 | 4,970 | 5,370 | 4,930 | 230 | 340 | 370 | 4.4 | 6.0 | 7.0 |
| Greenville | 1,530 | 1,560 | 1,370 | 1,400 | 1,420 | 1,250 | 130 | 140 | 120 | 8.5 | 9.0 | 8.8 |
| Houlton | 6,130 | 6,010 | 6,000 | 5,860 | 5,790 | 5,680 | 270 | 220 | 320 | 4.4 | 3.7 | 5.3 |
| Kittery-York 3/ | 29,790 | 30,010 | 29,060 | 29,240 | 29,570 | 28,410 | 550 | 440 | 650 | 1.8 | 1.5 | 2.2 |
| Lincoln-Howland | 5,210 | 5,250 | 5,260 | 5,000 | 4,870 | 5,030 | 210 | 380 | 230 | 4.0 | 7.2 | 4.4 |
| Livermore Falls | 4,080 | 4,050 | 4,110 | 3,810 | 3,800 | 3,860 | 270 | 250 | 250 | 6.6 | 6.2 | 6.1 |
| Madawaska-Van Buren | 3,620 | 3,800 | 3,530 | 3,330 | 3,460 | 3,160 | 290 | 340 | 370 | 8.0 | 8.9 | 10.5 |
| Millinocket-East Millinocket | 4,100 | 4,060 | 4,210 | 3,890 | 3,860 | 3,890 | 210 | 200 | 320 | 5.1 | 4.9 | 7.6 |
| Norway-Paris | 11,840 | 11,770 | 11,850 | 11,110 | 11,070 | 11,220 | 730 | 700 | 630 | 6.2 | 5.9 | 5.3 |
| Patten-Island Falls | 2,460 | 2,400 | 2,390 | 2,250 | 2,220 | 2,220 | 210 | 180 | 170 | 8.5 | 7.5 | 7.1 |
| Rockland | 17,800 | 18,110 | 17,560 | 16,760 | 17,190 | 16,660 | 1,040 | 920 | 900 | 5.8 | 5.1 | 5.1 |
| Rumford | 8,390 | 8,150 | 8,620 | 7,780 | 7,650 | 8,050 | 610 | 500 | 570 | 7.3 | 6.1 | 6.6 |
| Sanford | 16,080 | 16,290 | 16,300 | 15,180 | 15,420 | 15,540 | 900 | 870 | 760 | 5.6 | 5.3 | 4.7 |
| Sebago Lakes Region | 11,900 | 11,740 | 11,420 | 11,470 | 11,350 | 11,070 | 430 | 390 | 350 | 3.6 | 3.3 | 3.1 |
| Skowhegan | 21,510 | 21,120 | 21,370 | 19,880 | 19,800 | 19,850 | 1,630 | 1,320 | 1,520 | 7.6 | 6.3 | 7.1 |
| Southwest Penobscot | 11,170 | 10,930 | 10,500 | 10,380 | 10,360 | 9,790 | 790 | 570 | 710 | 7.1 | 5.2 | 6.8 |
| Waterville | 24,410 | 24,880 | 23,850 | 23,150 | 23,720 | 22,740 | 1,260 | 1,160 | 1,110 | 5.2 | 4.7 | 4.7 |
| **OTHER NEW ENGLAND STATES** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Connecticut | n/a | 1,701.7 | 1,673.1 | n/a | 1,645.7 | 1,617.0 | n/a | 55.9 | 56.2 | n/a | 3.3 | 3.4 |
| Massachusetts | 3,139.0 | 3,127.2 | 3,103.9 | 3,020.0 | 3,033.3 | 2,986.3 | 119.0 | 93.9 | 117.6 | 3.8 | 3.0 | 3.8 |
| New Hampshire | n/a | 617.8 | 588.4 | n/a | 604.3 | 573.5 | n/a | 13.5 | 14.9 | n/a | 2.2 | 2.5 |
| Rhode Island | 524.9 | 533.9 | 513.2 | 508.1 | 523.0 | 497.6 | 16.8 | 10.9 | 15.5 | 3.2 | 2.0 | 3.0 |
| Vermont | 303.6 | 306.5 | 294.1 | 293.7 | 298.9 | 284.4 | 9.9 | 7.6 | 9.7 | 3.3 | 2.5 | 3.3 |
| **NEW ENGLAND STATES** | n/a | 6,888.1 | 6,753.1 | n/a | 6,681.4 | 6,511.9 | n/a | 206.6 | 241.2 | n/a | 3.0 | 3.6 |
| **UNITED STATES 4/** | 122,095 | 122,120 | 119,742 | 114,786 | 115,978 | 112,139 | 7,309 | 6,142 | 7,603 | 6.0 | 5.0 | 6.3 |

MSA Metropolitan Statistical Area

**Footnotes**

1/ Labor force, employment, and unemployment data for all areas not seasonally adjusted. Estimates made independently for each labor market area have been benchmarked to and extrapolated from the Current Population Survey estimates for the state. All data adjusted to place of residence basis. Excludes members of the Armed Forces.

2/ Current month figures preliminary; last month and year ago figures revised.

3/ Kittery-York is the eight-town Maine portion of the Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester MSA which includes towns in both Maine and New Hampshire.

4/ National estimates based on a sample of household visits; state estimates based on enlargements of employment figures reported.

**Note**

n/a indicates that the information was not available at the time of printing.

Employment and unemployment may not add to labor force due to rounding.

THESE DATA ARE DEVELOPED BY THE MAINE BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY IN COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS.

# Mid-Month Insured Unemployment

| ITEM | STATEWIDE This Month | STATEWIDE Last Month | STATEWIDE Year Ago | PORTLAND MSA This Month | PORTLAND MSA Last Month | PORTLAND MSA Year Ago | LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA This Month | LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA Last Month | LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA Year Ago |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Number of Continued-Week Claimants* | 11,205 | 6,653 | 9,597 | 1,066 | 636 | 1,023 | 1,098 | 601 | 887 |

* Data for week including the 12th of the month. Continued-week claimants are less partials.

## Q. and A. about the Federal Bonding Program

Q. What is the maximum and minimum coverage under the FBP?
A. Bonds are issued in units of $500 up to a maximum of $10,000, and, in very special cases, up to $25,000.

Q. Must employers attempt to obtain coverage through their normal insurance sources before requesting FBP coverage?
A. In the case of ex-offenders, this is not necessary.

Q. Is a self-employed person eligible for coverage under the FBP?
A. No, since the person has no employer.

Q. Can bonding be provided for employees occupying jobs where bonding was not previously an employment requirement?
A. Yes, if the employer can substantiate that the jobs are ones which pose the risk of substantial loss or damage.

Q. An employer requests coverage for an employee who is already working. The employee is being promoted to a position requiring the handling of substantial cash. Bonding cannot be acquired through normal sources. Is the employee eligible for the FBP?
A. Yes. In addition, if the employer only now learns that the employee has a "record," that employee is eligible.

*For more information, contact Hilton Drake, Designated Authorized Representative at the Job Service, 289-3431*



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